What is claimed:

1. An isolated nucleic acid molecule from *Corynebacterium glutamicum* encoding a metabolic pathway regulatory protein, or a portion thereof, provided that the nucleic acid molecule does not consist of any of the F-designated genes set forth in Table 1..

2. The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 1, wherein said metabolic pathway regulatory protein is selected from the group consisting of proteins involved in the regulation of metabolism of organic acids, proteinogenic and nonproteinogenic amino acids, purine and pyrimidine bases, nucleosides, nucleotides, lipids, saturated and unsaturated fatty acids, diols, carbohydrates, aromatic compounds, vitamins, cofactors, and enzymes.

3. An isolated *Corynebacterium glutamicum* nucleic acid molecule selected from the group consisting of those sequences set forth in Appendix A, or a portion thereof, provided that the nucleic acid molecule does not consist of any of the F-designated genes set forth in Table 1.

4. An isolated nucleic acid molecule which encodes a polypeptide sequence selected from the group consisting of those sequences set forth in Appendix B, provided that the nucleic acid molecule does not consist of any of the F-designated genes set forth in Table 1.

5. An isolated nucleic acid molecule which encodes a naturally occurring allelic variant of a polypeptide selected from the group of amino acid sequences consisting of those sequences set forth in Appendix B, provided that the nucleic acid molecule does not consist of any of the F-designated genes set forth in Table 1.

6. An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a nucleotide sequence which is at least 50% homologous to a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of those sequences set forth in Appendix A, or a portion thereof, provided that the nucleic acid molecule does not consist of any of the F-designated genes set forth in Table 1.

7. An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a fragment of at least 15 nucleotides of a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group

consisting of those sequences set forth in Appendix A, provides that the nucleic acid molecule does not consist of any of the F-designated genes set forth in Table 1.

8. An isolated nucleic acid molecule which hybridizes to the nucleic acid molecule of any one of claims 1-7 under stringent conditions.

9. An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising the nucleic acid molecule of claim 1 or a portion thereof and a nucleotide sequence encoding a heterologous polypeptide.

10. A vector comprising the nucleic acid molecule of claim 1.

11. The vector of claim 10, which is an expression vector.

12. A host cell transfected with the expression vector of claim 11.

13. The host cell of claim 12, wherein said cell is a microorganism.

14. The host cell of claim 13, wherein said cell belongs to the genus *Corynebacterium* or *Brevibacterium.*

15. The host cell of claim 12, wherein the expression of said nucleic acid molecule results in the modulation in production of a fine chemical from said cell.

16. The host cell of claim 15, wherein said fine chemical is selected from the group consisting of: organic acids, proteinogenic and nonproteinogenic amino acids, purine and pyrimidine bases, nucleosides, nucleotides, lipids, saturated and unsaturated fatty acids, diols, carbohydrates, aromatic compounds, vitamins, cofactors, polyketides, and enzymes.

17. A method of producing a polypeptide comprising culturing the host cell of claim 12 in an appropriate culture medium to, thereby, produce the polypeptide.

18. An isolated metabolic pathway regulatory polypeptide from *Corynebacterium glutamicum*, or a portion thereof.

19. The protein of claim 18, wherein said polypeptide is selected from the group of metabolic pathway proteins which participate in the regulation of metabolism of

organic acids, proteinogenic and nonproteinogenic amino acids, purine and pyrimidine bases, nucleosides, nucleotides, lipids, saturated and unsaturated fatty acids, diols, carbohydrates, aromatic compounds, vitamins, cofactors, and enzymes.

20. An isolated polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of those sequences set forth in Appendix B, provided that the amino acid sequence is not encoded by any of the F-designated genes set forth in Table 1.

21. An isolated polypeptide comprising a naturally occurring allelic variant of a polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of those sequences set forth in Appendix B, or a portion thereof, provided that the amino acid sequence is not encoded by any of the F-designated genes set forth in Table 1.

22. The isolated polypeptide of claim 18, further comprising heterologous amino acid sequences.

23. An isolated polypeptide which is encoded by a nucleic acid molecule comprising a nucleotide sequence which is at least 50% homologous to a nucleic acid selected from the group consisting of those sequences set forth in Appendix A, provided that the nucleic acid molecule does not consist of any of the F-designated nucleic acid molecules set forth in Table 1.

24. An isolated polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence which is at least 50% homologous to an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of those sequences set forth in Appendix B, provided that the amino acid sequence is not encoded by any of the F-designated genes set forth in Table 1.

SUB C1

25. A method for producing a fine chemical, comprising culturing a cell containing a vector of claim 12 such that the fine chemical is produced.

26. The method of claim 25, wherein said method further comprises the step of recovering the fine chemical from said culture.

SUB C2

27. The method of claim 25, wherein said method further comprises the step of transfecting said cell with the vector of claim 11 to result in a cell containing said vector.

28. The method of claim 25, wherein said cell belongs to the genus *Corynebacterium* or *Brevibacterium.*

29. The method of claim 25, wherein said cell is selected from the group consisting of: *Corynebacterium glutamicum, Corynebacterium herculis, Corynebacterium, lilium, Corynebacterium acetoacidophilum, Corynebacterium acetoglutamicum, Corynebacterium acetophilum, Corynebacterium ammoniagenes, Corynebacterium fujiokense, Corynebacterium nitrilophilus, Brevibacterium ammoniagenes, Brevibacterium butanicum, Brevibacterium divaricatum, Brevibacterium flavum, Brevibacterium healii, Brevibacterium ketoglutamicum, Brevibacterium ketosoreductum, Brevibacterium lactofermentum, Brevibacterium linens, Brevibacterium paraffinolyticum,* and those strains set forth in Table 3.

30. The method of claim 25, wherein expression of the nucleic acid molecule from said vector results in modulation of production of said fine chemical.

31. The method of claim 25, wherein said fine chemical is selected from the group consisting of: organic acids, proteinogenic and nonproteinogenic amino acids, purine and pyrimidine bases, nucleosides, nucleotides, lipids, saturated and unsaturated fatty acids, diols, carbohydrates, aromatic compounds, vitamins, cofactors, polyketides, and enzymes.

32. The method of claim 25, wherein said fine chemical is an amino acid.

33. The method of claim 32, wherein said amino acid is drawn from the group consisting of: lysine, glutamate, glutamine, alanine, aspartate, glycine, serine, threonine, methionine, cysteine, valine, leucine, isoleucine, arginine, proline, histidine, tyrosine, phenylalanine, and tryptophan.

34. A method for producing a fine chemical, comprising culturing a cell whose genomic DNA has been altered by the inclusion of a nucleic acid molecule of any one of claims 1-9.

35. A method for diagnosing the presence or activity of *Corynebacterium diphtheriae* in a subject, comprising detecting the presence of one or more of the sequences set forth in Appendix A or Appendix B in the subject, provided that the sequences are not or are not

encoded by any of the F-designated sequences set forth in Table 1, thereby diagnosing the presence or activity of *Corynebacterium diphtheriae* in the subject.

36. A host cell comprising a nucleic acid molecule selected from the group consisting of the nucleic acid molecules set forth in Appendix A, wherein the nucleic acid molecule is disrupted.

37. A host cell comprising a nucleic acid molecule selected from the group consisting of the nucleic acid molecules set forth in Appendix A, wherein the nucleic acid molecule comprises one or more nucleic acid modifications from the sequence set forth in Appendix A.

38. A host cell comprising a nucleic acid molecule selected from the group consisting of the nucleic acid molecules set forth in Appendix A, wherein the regulatory region of the nucleic acid molecule is modified relative to the wild-type regulatory region of the molecule.